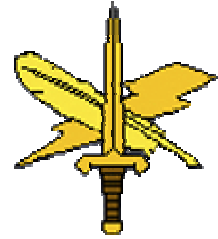




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INGRAM ASSUMES 'DEVIL BRIGADE' COMMAND

By Anna Morelock
Staff writer

The "Devil Brigade" once again responded quickly to change when rain forced it to move the brigade change of command ceremony from Cavalry Parade Field to King Field House May 3.

The "Big Red One's" 1st Brigade adjusted to a delayed deployment schedule for some of its units and a new military transition team training mission since December.

Outgoing commander Col. Bart Howard passed the brigade colors and transferred authority over the Soldiers, equipment and mission to Col. Jeff D. Ingram during the ceremony.

"Bart and Teresa Howard, you have truly done a remarkable job in your 18 months here," said Maj. Gen. Dennis E. Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, speaking about the outgoing commander and his wife.

Hardy commended Howard on his leadership, performance, mentorship and ability to put the 1st Brigade Combat Team together.

"I must admit that it's with mixed emotions that I stand here before you this morning," Howard said as he reflected on his time of command and spoke of anticipating challenges ahead.

Howard also thanked the Soldiers and families of the brigade for their adaptability and hard work.

"These Soldiers have met every challenge, every mission – every changing mission," he said.

"My source of greatest pride is that this team never wrung its hands," he said. "They rolled up their sleeves and started working."

Ingram spoke briefly before receiving the brigade's colors and was welcomed by Hardy.

“Jeff, I know you’re full of school. I know you’re full of leadership and I know you’re fully ready to give,” he said of the brigade’s new commander.

Ingram served as a seminar leader at the School of Advanced Military Studies before taking command of the 1st Bde.

Howard is on tap to be chief of staff for Combined Forces Command – Afghanistan. His wife and son, Connor, will remain at Fort Riley during his assignment.

Before serving as a SAMS seminar leader, Ingram served as the G3 for the 24th Inf. Div (Mech) at Fort Riley.

Previous to that, he served as commander of 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, also at Fort Riley.

His decorations include the Silver Star, Legion of Merit and three Bronze Star Medals with V devices.

He has earned the Combat Action Badge, Parachute Badge, Ranger Tab and French Commando Badge.

Ingram’s wife, Caroline, is from Bremen, Germany, and the couple has two sons, Dustin, 17, and Ian, 13.